IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6 and 28 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for providing a cashless gaming service in a gaming network including gaming machines, the method comprising:

sending service information for the cashless gaming service from the cashless gaming service to a discovery agent on the gaming network, wherein the cashless gaming service provides electronic funds transfer for one or more of a plurality of gaming machines on the gaming network, wherein in response to a wager at a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines the gaming machine depicts indicia representative of a randomly selected outcome of a wagering game;

determining by the discovery agent if the cashless gaming service is authentic and authorized;

in response to determining that the cashless gaming service is authentic and authorized, publishing the service information to a service repository to make ~~an availability of~~ the cashless gaming service available on the gaming network;

receiving by the discovery agent a discovery request for the location of the cashless gaming service from a gaming client on a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines;

using the service information for the cashless gaming service to register the ~~registering by~~ ~~a~~ gaming client with the cashless gaming service;

verifying that the gaming client is authorized to utilize the cashless gaming service; and

processing one or more service requests between the gaming client and the cashless gaming service, said service requests conforming to an internetworking protocol.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the cashless gaming service comprises a web service.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the service request is formatted according to a service description language.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 3, wherein the service description language is a Web Services Description Language (WSDL).

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the cashless gaming service is registered in a UDDI registry.

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the gaming client comprises a service provider.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises an HTTP request encapsulating an OFX message.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to establish a new account.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to modify details for an account.

11.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to close an account.

12.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to provide details for an account.

13.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to obtain an account balance.

14.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to obtain a list of transactions associated with an account.

15.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to deposit funds into an account.

16.   (Original)   The method of claim 15, further comprising electronically transferring funds from an external account into the account.

17.   (Original)   The method of claim 16, further comprising obtaining authorization prior to electronically transferring funds.

18.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to withdraw funds from an account.

19.   (Original)   The method of claim 18, further comprising transferring the withdrawn funds as a playable credit on a gaming machine.

20.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to deposit promotional credits into an account.

21.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the service request comprises a request to withdraw promotional credits from an account.

22.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising authenticating the gaming client to determine if the gaming client is authorized to receive cashless gaming services.

23.   (Currently Amended)   A gaming network system, the gaming network system comprising:

a plurality of gaming ~~client~~ machines communicably coupled to the gaming network, wherein in response to a wager at a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines the gaming machine depicts indicia representative of a randomly selected outcome of a wagering game; [[and]]

a cashless gaming service communicably coupled to the gaming network and operable to [[:]] provide electronic funds transfer for the plurality of gaming machines on the gaming network,

a discovery agent communicably coupled to the gaming network, wherein the discovery agent is operable to:

receive service information from the cashless gaming service,

determine if the cashless gaming service is authentic and authorized for the gaming network, and

publish the service information to a service repository to make the cashless gaming service available on the gaming network;

wherein at least one gaming client on a gaming machine of the plurality of gaming machines communicably coupled to the gaming network is operable to issue a request for the location of the cashless gaming service to the discovery agent and use the service information received from the discovery agent to issue a registration request to the cashless gaming service; and

further wherein the cashless gaming service is further operable to:

~~publish an availability of the cashless gaming service on the gaming network;~~

~~register a~~ receive the registration request from the gaming client ~~with the cashless gaming service~~; and

process one or more service requests between the gaming client and the cashless gaming service, said service requests conforming to an internetworking protocol.

24.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the cashless gaming service comprises a web service.

25.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request is formatted according to a service description language.

26.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 25, wherein the service description language is a Web Services Description Language (WSDL).

27.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the cashless gaming service is registered in a UDDI registry.

28.   (Canceled)

29.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the gaming client comprises a service provider in the gaming network.

30.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises an HTTP request encapsulating an OFX message.

31.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to establish a new account.

32.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to modify details for an account.

33.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to close an account.

34.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to provide details for an account.

35.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to obtain an account balance.

36.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to obtain a list of transactions associated with an account.

37.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to deposit funds into an account.

38.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the cashless gaming service is further operable to electronically transfer funds from an external account into an account.

39.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 38, wherein the cashless gaming service is further operable to obtain authorization prior to electronically transferring funds.

40.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to withdraw funds from an account.

41.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to deposit promotional credits into an account.

42.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, wherein the service request comprises a request to withdraw promotional credits from an account.

43.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 23, further comprising an authentication service operable to authenticate the gaming client to determine if the gaming client is authorized to receive cashless gaming services.

44.   (Original)   The gaming network system of claim 43, wherein the authentication service includes a LDAP authentication service.